

Hi John,

I am asking for your assistance in keeping the Department of Public Health Drug Laboratory open at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. We understand the fiscal restraints the State is under, but this decision would not save money it would just shift costs to the cities and towns of Western Massachusetts. Samples would have to be transported from area cities and towns to Jamaica Plain. This would increase the work load of the 11 chemist's working there. This would increase Jamaica Plain's backlog of 3 months to 6 months. This would cause an undo hardship for the judicial system of Massachusetts. The delay in results for the courts and a shortage of chemist's to testify due to the Melendez-Diaz Decision. Any assistance you could give us would be greatly appreciated. Here is the Fiscal year 2011 data.

<b><u>Fiscal Year 2011</u></b>	
<b>Samples Received in Amherst</b>	4832
<b>Samples Analyzed in Amherst</b>	4629
<b>Back Log Samples Average</b>	167
<b>Back Log Days Average</b>	33 Days
<b>Samples Received from Boston</b>	1527
<b>Samples Analyzed from Boston</b>	1527
<b>Total Samples Received in Amherst</b>	6359
<b>Total Samples Analyzed in Amherst</b>	6156
<b>Current Back Log Samples</b>	567
<b>Current Back Log Days</b>	38 Days
<b>Western Mass Samples Analyzed</b>	
<b>Cocaine</b>	1265
<b>Heroin</b>	674
<b>Marijuana</b>	1233
<b>Oxycodone</b>	299
<b>Others</b>	1158
<b>Court Data</b>	
<b>Summons Received</b>	478
<b>Court Appearances</b>	60
<b>Hours Out of Laboratory</b>	253

Thanks,